

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 1 as follows:

FIG. 3 a view showing detailed steps of the OAM capability discovery process according to an embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 4 is a flow chart illustrating an operation state of the OLT in an OAM capability discovery process according to an embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 5 is a flow chart illustrating an operation state of the ONU in an OAM capability discovery process according to an embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 6 is a view showing a data field structure of an OAM state PDU according to an embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 7 is a view showing a bit encoding structure of a local/far_end_state field according to an embodiment of the present invention; and

FIG. 8 is a view showing the kinds of messages classified by bit encoding of a local/far_end_state field according to an embodiment of the present invention; and

APPENDIX A is a copy of ITU-T Standard G.983.1.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 1, as follows:

Referring to FIG. 2, an OAM capability discovery processes according to the teachings of the present invention are performed just after the discovery process between an OLT (Optical Line Termination) 100 and an ONU (Optical Network Unit) 110 have been ~~competed~~ completed. In particular, FIG. 2 shows the operation steps by which the OAM

capability discovery process between the OLT 100 and the ONU 110 is performed according to an embodiment of the present invention. Briefly, the OLT 100 performs a discovery process, which assigns an ID for identifying the ONU 110 according to a registration request of the connected ONU 110 in step 10. In step 20, the OLT 100 and the ONU 110 perform an operation for discovering the capability of each other, and then in step 30, a number of other subsequent steps are performed.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 3, as follows:

FIG. 6 illustrates the data field structure of an OAM state PDU, which is a data field structure of each message that is actually transmitted/received through out the OAM capability discovery processes. The table includes a column on the left which indicates the quantity of OCTETS (8 bits each) that each field comprises. As shown, each message according to an embodiment of the present invention includes not only data fields of an OAM state PDU of a general structure, but also a Local_Allocated_channel field 203 having a size of one byte and a Far_End_Allocated_channel field 209 having a size of one byte, a Local_Topology field 205, a Far_End_Topology field 211, a Local_State field 201 and a Far_End_State field 207.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 17 and ending at page 10, line 3, as follows:

The Local_State field 201 and the Far_End_State field 207 are defined newly according to the embodiment of the present invention and represent fields including

information regarding the type of messages transmitted/received through the OAM capability discovery process. Bit encoding structure of the Local_State field 201 and the Far_End_State field 207 is shown in FIG. 7. As shown[[.]], the Local_State field 201 and the Far_End_State field 207 represent the classification of each message transmitted/received through the OAM capability discovery process by newly defining D6 bit and D7 bit as CD state (Capability Discovery State) field in a bit encoding structure of a conventional Local_State field and the Far_End_State field.